



SC Department of Employment and Workforce

NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

South Carolina's Employment Situation January 2017

Employment hits new record as labor force grows

While the number of people working in South Carolina hit a new record and the size of the workforce rose, the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased slightly in January.

Employment rose by 9,373 in January from December 2016 to 2,209,235 people, and the labor force increased by 12,614 to 2,310,701 people. The unemployed rate rose 0.1 percent to 4.4 percent in January from 4.3 percent in December 2016. The number of unemployed increased by 3,241, to 101,466 people.

Over the past year, employment gains totaled 42,022 and unemployment decreased by 23,683. Since January 2016, the labor force has grown by 18,339.

Nationally, January's unemployment rate was 4.8 percent, up from 4.7 percent in December 2016.

Nonfarm Employment by Industry (Seasonally Adjusted¹)

January seasonally adjusted, nonfarm payroll employment increased by 5,300 over the month, to a record level of 2,076,000.

- South Carolina saw job gains in Professional and Business Services (+4,000); Financial Activities (+2,800); Other Services (+1,300); Education and Health Services (+500); and Information (+300).
- Decreases occurred in the Leisure and Hospitality (-1,600); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (-1,300); Government (-600); Manufacturing (-100); and Construction (-100) sectors.

Compared to January 2016, seasonally adjusted, nonfarm jobs were up 40,500.

- Industries with increases were Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+7,700); Education and Health Services (+7,600); Construction (+7,100); Professional and Business Services (+5,600); Manufacturing (+4,400); Financial Activities (+3,100); Government (+2,400); Leisure and Hospitality (+1,200); Other Services (+600); and Information (+500).

Nonfarm Employment by Industry (Not Seasonally Adjusted²)

Not-seasonally adjusted, nonfarm payroll employment decreased by 42,800 from December 2016 to January 2017 to a total of 2,038,600.

Gains were reported in Financial Activities (+600); Other Services (+400); and Mining and Logging (+100). Industries reporting decreases were Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (-15,700); Leisure and Hospitality (-8,900); Government (-6,800); Professional and Business Services (-6,400); Education and Health Services (-3,500); Manufacturing (-1,400); and Construction (-1,100). Information saw a slight decline of (-100).

The over the year, not-seasonally adjusted, nonfarm jobs were up 41,600. Gains were reported in Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+9,500); Education and Health Services (+7,200); Construction (+6,600); Professional and Business Services (+5,500); Manufacturing (+4,600); Financial Activities (+2,700); Government (+2,300); Leisure and Hospitality (+1,300); Other Services (+1,200); Information (+400); and Mining and Logging (+300).

¹Seasonally Adjusted: Seasonal adjustment removes the effects of events that follow a more or less regular pattern each year (i.e. tourist-related hiring and school closings in the summer). These adjustments make it easier to observe the cyclical and other nonseasonal movements in data over time.

²Not Seasonally Adjusted: Effects of regular or seasonal patterns have not been removed from these data.

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NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

**Statewide
January 2017**

Industry	January 2017	December 2016	January 2016	December 2016 to January 2017		January 2016 to January 2017	
				#	%	#	%
				Change	Change	Change	Change
Total Nonfarm Employment	2,076,000	2,070,700	2,035,500	5,300	0.26%	40,500	1.99%
Construction	98,300	98,400	91,200	-100	-0.10%	7,100	7.79%
Manufacturing	241,500	241,600	237,100	-100	-0.04%	4,400	1.86%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	398,500	399,800	390,800	-1,300	-0.33%	7,700	1.97%
Information	27,500	27,200	27,000	300	1.09%	500	1.85%
Financial Activities	102,500	99,700	99,400	2,800	2.73%	3,100	3.12%
Professional and Business Services	272,200	268,200	266,600	4,000	1.47%	5,600	2.10%
Education and Health Services	245,900	245,400	238,300	500	0.20%	7,600	3.19%
Leisure and Hospitality	245,900	247,500	244,700	-1,600	-0.65%	1,200	0.49%
Other Services	74,900	73,600	74,300	1,300	1.74%	600	0.81%
Government	364,500	365,100	362,100	-600	-0.16%	2,400	0.66%

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY, NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

**Statewide
January 2017**

Industry	January 2017	December 2016	January 2016	December 2016 to January 2017		January 2016 to January 2017	
				#	%	#	%
				Change	Change	Change	Change
Total Nonfarm	2,038,600	2,081,400	1,997,000	-42,800	-2.06%	41,600	2.08%
Mining and Logging	4,300	4,200	4,000	100	2.38%	300	7.50%
Construction	96,300	97,400	89,700	-1,100	-1.13%	6,600	7.36%
Manufacturing	241,100	242,500	236,500	-1,400	-0.58%	4,600	1.95%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	394,800	410,500	385,300	-15,700	-3.82%	9,500	2.47%
Information	27,300	27,400	26,900	-100	-0.36%	400	1.49%
Financial Activities	100,500	99,900	97,800	600	0.60%	2,700	2.76%
Professional and Business Services	264,700	271,100	259,200	-6,400	-2.36%	5,500	2.12%
Education and Health Services	243,500	247,000	236,300	-3,500	-1.42%	7,200	3.05%
Leisure and Hospitality	228,300	237,200	227,000	-8,900	-3.75%	1,300	0.57%
Other Services	74,500	74,100	73,300	400	0.54%	1,200	1.64%
Government	363,300	370,100	361,000	-6,800	-1.84%	2,300	0.64%

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY AREA, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

South Carolina & Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) January 2017

Area	January 2017	December 2016	January 2016	December 2016 to January 2017		January 2016 to January 2017	
				# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
Statewide	2,076,000	2,070,700	2,035,500	5,300	0.26%	40,500	1.99%
Charleston/North Charleston MSA	350,600	350,900	341,500	-300	-0.09%	9,100	2.66%
Columbia MSA	395,300	395,200	390,400	100	0.03%	4,900	1.26%
Florence MSA	87,500	88,000	86,400	-500	-0.57%	1,100	1.27%
Greenville/Anderson/Mauldin MSA	411,600	412,200	406,800	-600	-0.15%	4,800	1.18%
Myrtle Beach MSA	163,500	161,900	159,900	1,600	0.98%	3,600	2.25%
Spartanburg MSA	148,800	148,900	144,700	-100	-0.07%	4,100	2.83%
Sumter MSA	39,400	39,100	38,800	300	0.76%	600	1.55%

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY AREA, NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

South Carolina & Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) January 2017

Area	January 2017	December 2016	January 2016	December 2016 to January 2017		January 2016 to January 2017	
				# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
Statewide	2,038,600	2,081,400	1,997,000	-42,800	-2.06%	41,600	2.08%
Charleston/North Charleston MSA	346,000	352,600	335,600	-6,600	-1.87%	10,400	3.10%
Columbia MSA	391,100	398,000	386,400	-6,900	-1.73%	4,700	1.22%
Florence MSA	87,100	88,800	85,600	-1,700	-1.91%	1,500	1.75%
Greenville MSA	405,800	416,700	401,300	-10,900	-2.62%	4,500	1.12%
Hilton Head Island/Bluffton MSA	74,400	75,800	73,000	-1,400	-1.85%	1,400	1.92%
Myrtle Beach/Conway/N. Myrtle Beach MSA	151,300	154,000	147,100	-2,700	-1.75%	4,200	2.86%
Spartanburg MSA	147,600	150,600	143,100	-3,000	-1.99%	4,500	3.14%
Sumter MSA	39,000	39,400	38,500	-400	-1.02%	500	1.30%

NOTE: Due to Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) redefinition and data adjustment due to benchmarking, the following areas have been reinstated as MSAs eligible for seasonal adjustment: Greenville, Myrtle Beach and Spartanburg. Only MSAs identified by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) as meeting the latest published standards from Census Bureau data are seasonally adjusted. The standards for defining the areas are reviewed and revised once every 10 years, prior to each decennial census. Between censuses, the definitions are updated annually to reflect the most recent Census Bureau population estimates.

**STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
LOCAL AREA UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS BY COUNTY, MSA, AND STATE
(NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)**

AREA		January 2017				December 2016 **				January 2016**			
		LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY- MENT	UNEMPLOYMENT		LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY- MENT	UNEMPLOYMENT		LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY- MENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	
				LEVEL	RATE (%)			LEVEL	RATE (%)			LEVEL	RATE (%)
Marion County	↑	12,842	11,680	1,162	9.0	12,928	11,930	998	7.7	12,805	11,550	1,255	9.8
Allendale County	↑	2,725	2,489	236	8.7	2,746	2,543	203	7.4	2,720	2,452	268	9.9
Bamberg County	↑	5,335	4,885	450	8.4	5,477	5,076	401	7.3	5,408	4,881	527	9.7
Orangeburg County	↑	35,871	32,965	2,906	8.1	37,034	34,426	2,608	7.0	36,403	33,080	3,323	9.1
Marlboro County	↑	9,371	8,654	717	7.7	9,691	9,056	635	6.6	9,640	8,699	941	9.8
Williamsburg County	↑	12,773	11,853	920	7.2	13,020	12,188	832	6.4	12,930	11,761	1,169	9.0
Horry County	↑	134,759	125,479	9,280	6.9	131,951	124,499	7,452	5.6	131,752	121,427	10,325	7.8
Georgetown County	↑	25,765	24,005	1,760	6.8	25,662	24,190	1,472	5.7	25,477	23,310	2,167	8.5
Chester County	—	13,912	12,973	939	6.7	13,886	12,962	924	6.7	13,685	12,649	1,036	7.6
Lee County	↑	6,574	6,134	440	6.7	6,476	6,094	382	5.9	6,470	5,946	524	8.1
Barnwell County	↑	8,459	7,901	558	6.6	8,484	7,992	492	5.8	8,366	7,714	652	7.8
Clarendon County	↑	13,104	12,238	866	6.6	13,211	12,498	713	5.4	13,046	12,096	950	7.3
Fairfield County	↑	10,077	9,419	658	6.5	10,270	9,669	601	5.9	10,260	9,463	797	7.8
Dillon County	↑	13,041	12,211	830	6.4	12,683	11,974	709	5.6	12,587	11,572	1,015	8.1
Darlington County	↑	30,175	28,376	1,799	6.0	29,910	28,341	1,569	5.2	29,908	27,795	2,113	7.1
Union County	↑	11,795	11,087	708	6.0	11,757	11,209	548	4.7	11,766	10,952	814	6.9
Calhoun County	↑	6,935	6,528	407	5.9	7,037	6,686	351	5.0	6,971	6,535	436	6.3
Sumter County	↑	44,473	41,865	2,608	5.9	44,213	42,011	2,202	5.0	44,866	41,950	2,916	6.5
Cherokee County	↑	23,909	22,544	1,365	5.7	23,893	22,744	1,149	4.8	23,464	21,941	1,523	6.5
McCormick County	↑	3,459	3,263	196	5.7	3,514	3,353	161	4.6	3,465	3,216	249	7.2
Edgefield County	↑	10,876	10,288	588	5.4	10,779	10,252	527	4.9	10,671	10,004	667	6.3
Colleton County	↑	17,268	16,348	920	5.3	17,226	16,458	768	4.5	16,873	15,773	1,100	6.5
Abbeville County	↑	10,429	9,900	529	5.1	10,585	10,133	452	4.3	10,380	9,707	673	6.5
Florence County	↑	65,698	62,367	3,331	5.1	65,289	62,466	2,823	4.3	65,039	61,071	3,968	6.1
Hampton County	↑	8,250	7,826	424	5.1	8,184	7,812	372	4.5	8,148	7,557	591	7.3
Kershaw County	↑	29,311	27,818	1,493	5.1	29,361	28,079	1,282	4.4	29,113	27,482	1,631	5.6
Lancaster County	↑	38,087	36,157	1,930	5.1	36,656	35,006	1,650	4.5	36,276	34,095	2,181	6.0
Greenwood County	↑	31,720	30,123	1,597	5.0	31,939	30,542	1,397	4.4	31,140	29,343	1,797	5.8
Laurens County	↑	30,282	28,809	1,473	4.9	30,813	29,563	1,250	4.1	30,458	28,661	1,797	5.9
Oconee County	↑	34,943	33,222	1,721	4.9	35,435	33,978	1,457	4.1	34,747	32,700	2,047	5.9
Pickens County	↑	56,536	53,827	2,709	4.8	57,052	54,745	2,307	4.0	56,132	53,062	3,070	5.5
Beaufort County	↑	71,378	68,000	3,378	4.7	71,573	68,753	2,820	3.9	70,524	66,858	3,666	5.2
Richland County	↑	201,515	192,109	9,406	4.7	200,610	192,612	7,998	4.0	199,159	188,666	10,493	5.3
Aiken County	↑	75,462	71,958	3,504	4.6	73,956	71,015	2,941	4.0	73,563	69,427	4,136	5.6
Chesterfield County	↑	22,173	21,148	1,025	4.6	21,757	20,838	919	4.2	21,307	20,079	1,228	5.8
Anderson County	↑	89,311	85,319	3,992	4.5	90,068	86,762	3,306	3.7	88,646	84,192	4,454	5.0
Saluda County	↑	8,886	8,487	399	4.5	8,913	8,580	333	3.7	8,859	8,405	454	5.1
Spartanburg County	↑	144,037	137,515	6,522	4.5	142,081	136,611	5,470	3.8	140,948	133,631	7,317	5.2
York County	↑	131,712	125,911	5,801	4.4	127,983	123,011	4,972	3.9	126,155	119,734	6,421	5.1
Berkeley County	↑	96,518	92,349	4,169	4.3	95,258	91,737	3,521	3.7	93,383	88,606	4,777	5.1
Dorchester County	↑	75,036	71,795	3,241	4.3	73,782	71,079	2,703	3.7	72,305	68,627	3,678	5.1
Jasper County	↑	11,681	11,180	501	4.3	11,797	11,380	417	3.5	11,516	10,962	554	4.8
Greenville County	↑	245,759	235,524	10,235	4.2	245,958	237,364	8,594	3.5	241,587	230,349	11,238	4.7
Newberry County	↑	19,234	18,425	809	4.2	19,258	18,553	705	3.7	18,923	17,966	957	5.1
Charleston County	↑	204,586	196,495	8,091	4.0	202,852	196,165	6,687	3.3	197,886	188,909	8,977	4.5
Lexington County	↑	147,285	141,478	5,807	3.9	146,821	141,933	4,888	3.3	145,421	138,828	6,593	4.5
Charleston - North Charleston MSA	↑	376,140	360,639	15,501	4.1	371,892	358,981	12,911	3.5	363,574	346,142	17,432	4.8
Columbia MSA	↑	404,009	385,839	18,170	4.5	403,012	387,559	15,453	3.8	399,783	379,379	20,404	5.1
Florence MSA	↑	95,873	90,743	5,130	5.4	95,199	90,807	4,392	4.6	94,947	88,866	6,081	6.4
Greenville -Anderson-Mauldin MSA	↑	421,888	403,479	18,409	4.4	423,891	408,434	15,457	3.6	416,823	396,264	20,559	4.9
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED													
South Carolina	↑	2,310,701	2,209,235	101,466	4.4	2,298,087	2,199,862	98,225	4.3	2,292,362	2,167,213	125,149	5.5

Current month's estimates are preliminary.

Counties are sorted by current month's unemployment rate in descending order.

** The 2016 substate estimates above are not revised. Bureau of Labor Statistics scheduled publication date for MSAs benchmark revised estimates and for county revisions is April 21st.

↑ Unemployment Rate Up
↓ Unemployment Rate Down
— Unemployment Rate =